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BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON
1945

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

1945

J. S. G. BURNETT, M.D., D.P.H.,
ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

**BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON
1945**

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :
COUNCILLOR R. SCOTT.

Vice-Chairman :
ALDERMAN T. COATES, J.P.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR—COUNCILLOR E. BUTTERWORTH, J.P. C.C.

ALDERMAN F. L. KAY, J.P.
COUNCILLOR MRS. C. FLETCHER, J.P.
COUNCILLOR T. HALSALL.
COUNCILLOR H. LISLE.
COUNCILLOR H. PRESTON.
COUNCILLOR MRS. C. REDFERN, J.P.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE, TOGETHER WITH THE FOLLOWING
Co-opted LADIES :—

THE MAYORESS (MRS. E. BALL).
MRS. ANNE HILTON, J.P.
MRS. F. L. KAY.

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

H. L. SETTLE, M.Sc., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(On Military Service.)

Acting Medical Officer of Health :

†J. S. G. BURNETT, M.D., D.P.H.

Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health :

†MRS. V. SETTLE, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

Obstetric Consultant :

*R. NEWTON, M.D., M.R.C.O.G.

Orthopædic Surgeon :

‡MISS M. F. JOHNSTONE, M.B., Ch.B.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

‡P. A. HARRY, M.D., B.Ch.

Dental Surgeon :

‡A. E. BUTLER, L.D.S., R.C.S. (England).

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

T. TURNER, A.R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector :

S. HACKING, C.R.S.I.

Health Visitors :

MISS E. M. HARRISON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

MISS T. DUNSCOMBE, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Masseuses :

‡MISS E. G. LEE, C.S.M.M.G.

‡MISS D. J. MACGILL, C.S.M.M.G.

Clerical Staff :

MISS E. M. HOWARTH.

MISS A. DEAN.

MISS J. M. JACKSON.

MISS M. LOMAS. (H.M. Forces.)

*MRS. P. M. KEAN. (Resigned 5.7.45.)

*MRS. R. B. COLLINS.

*MRS. E. BRITLAND. (Appointed 3.7.45.)

†These Officers function in a similar capacity for the Urban District Council of Chadderton.

‡Part-time Officers employed by the School Medical Committee, but whose services are available for Maternity and Child Welfare Cases.

*Part-time Officer.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

DURNFORD STREET,

MIDDLETON.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Middleton.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have to submit for your consideration a report on the health of the inhabitants of the Borough and on the working of the health services during 1945.

In the first year of peace Middleton, in common with other areas in the region, was relatively free from respiratory disease and entirely free from disease in epidemic form. The general health was good, and, in particular, there was material saving in infant life with an absence of maternal and zymotic mortality. The maternity and child welfare services achieved a high degree of efficiency that was reflected in the increased demands made on them. Their efficiency would be increased still further if the district clinics were housed in buildings appropriate to their needs.

Aside from the question of poverty, and the improved physical well-being as measured by the statistical data in these reports is coincidental with lessened poverty in the war years, the greatest single contribution that can be made to improvement in the physical environment and to the family life of the people of Middleton is the replacement by modern houses of that great mass of housing erected about the middle and in the third quarter of the last century. The problem of housing is a national one but the character of the problem varies from place to place. The one aspect of the housing shortage common to all areas, that is, the housing of couples married during the war years when building was at a standstill, is a short term problem and is limited by the size of the population of the area concerned. War damage replacement, so acute in some areas, does not apply to Middleton, and its major problem is slum clearance in association with the repair of good property that has tended to suffer dilapidation during the war.

This aspect of the public health, namely, the improvement in the unsatisfactory physical environment in which many of our people spend their lives, is the one which shows least progress, and is the one which time and time again proves to be the stumbling block to further progress.

It would be ungracious of me not to take this opportunity of expressing to you my pleasure at the reception you have given me in your meetings during the past three years, and of the cordial relations that you have permitted even when we have agreed to differ.

Nor can I do other than acknowledge here the loyalty of the staff and their willingness to co-operate actively under conditions that have not always been easy for them. The success of a department in its particular sphere of activity is a measure of the contribution of every single individual in it, and the increased responsibilities necessarily incurred, particularly by Miss Howarth, that have been accepted ungrudgingly and even cheerfully in the most difficult times by all, should be regarded as the foundation of the present achievements.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. S. G. BURNETT.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1946.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

TABLE I.

Area of the Borough (acres)	...	...	...	...	5,170
Population at Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	29,188
Registrar-General's estimated resident population (mid-year 1945)	...	...	...	...	28,290
Number of Persons per acre	...	...	...	...	5.47
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	10,250
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1945	...	...	...	...	£164,723
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£668

VITAL STATISTICS.

TABLE II.

	Total	M.	F.	
LIVE BIRTHS: —				
Legitimate ...	421	214	207	Birth-rate per 1,000
Illegitimate ...	23	10	13	estimated population
	—	—	—	mid-1945 15.6
Total ...	444	224	220	
	—	—	—	
STILL-BIRTHS ...	17	7	10	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
				... 36
DEATHS	381	190	191	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population
				... 13.4
Deaths from puerperal causes:—				Death-rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis		Nil.		Nil.
Other maternal causes		Nil.		Nil.
Total maternal mortality		Nil.		Nil.

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	38
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	38
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	43
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	58
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's estimate of population for the year 1945 is 28,290, which is 280 in excess of the estimated population for 1944 and 898 less than the Census population for 1931.

BIRTHS.

As was forecast last year the high birth-rate was not maintained. 444 live births were assigned to the Borough, representing an annual birth rate of 15.6 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the figure of 16.1 for England and Wales and 19.2 for the 148 smaller towns. The annual birth rates for the past 39 years are shown in Table IV.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths for Middleton during 1945 was 381, giving a crude death rate of 13.4 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 11.4 for England and Wales and 12.3 for the 148 smaller towns.

The age and ward incidence are shown in Table III.

TABLE III.
Age and Ward Incidence of Deaths occurring in 1945.

Ward.	Under								Total	
	1	1 — 2	5	15	25	45	65	up- wards		
North	...	2	—	1	—	1	6	16	21	22... 69
Central	...	1	—	2	—	—	4	21	20	16 ... 64
South	...	4	—	—	3	—	4	26	35	27 ... 99
East	...	5	—	2	1	—	5	17	11	24 ... 65
Parkfield	...	4	—	—	—	—	6	13	15	11 ... 49
West	...	1	—	1	—	—	2	6	9	16 ... 35
Total	...	17	—	6	4	1	27	99	111	116 381

A marked feature of the year was the absence of fatal infectious disease, the zymotic death rate touching zero for the first time since records were available.

Maternal mortality, which had been a cause for grave concern for a number of years past, and which showed a welcome reduction coinciding with the reorganisation of the ante-natal services of the Borough, was completely extinguished during 1945.

Infant mortality showed a welcome drop and, as can be seen from Table IV, reached the low level of 38 per 1,000 live births, a figure which has been exceeded in Middleton only once in the past.

The Comparative rate for England and Wales is 46 and for the 148 smaller towns, 43. Even this low figure for infant mortality is no cause for complacency when it is recollected that with adequate measures a rate of half this figure could be achieved.

The cancer death rate of 2.05 remains relatively high, the corresponding figure for England and Wales being 1.7 per 1,000 of the population, whilst the tuberculosis death rate at 0.53 suggests a halt in the war-time upward rise in this disease.

Comparative death rates for various diseases for the past 39 years are shown in Table IV. and the classified causes of death in 1945 are given in Table V.

TABLE IV.

Year	Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Zymotic Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Cancer Death Rate	Tuberculosis Death Rate
1907...	21.6	16.7	2.0	140	1.1	1.9
1908...	22.8	16.1	1.85	153	1.0	1.9
1909...	23.1	14.6	0.6	114	0.98	1.6
1910...	24.2	14.6	1.4	100	0.78	1.2
1911...	23.0	16.6	2.5	181	0.57	1.5
1912...	21.4	15.1	0.6	117	0.74	1.7
1913...	21.0	12.8	0.28	98	0.66	1.0
1914...	19.8	14.6	1.6	126	1.18	1.5
1915...	17.5	16.1	0.64	93	1.2	1.47
1916...	15.8	14.2	0.81	79	1.1	1.59
1917...	14.5	15.3	0.93	114	1.52	1.76
1918...	13.0	17.2	0.90	80	1.37	1.49
1919...	14.0	14.0	0.54	76	1.29	0.90
1920...	22.6	12.3	1.00	90	1.2	1.25
1921...	19.4	13.3	0.69	78	1.2	1.21
1922...	17.5	13.1	0.38	72	1.34	1.14
1923...	14.7	12.3	0.51	72	1.24	0.87
1924...	15.2	12.6	0.34	54	1.68	0.93
1925...	13.3	14.1	0.58	95	1.38	0.90
1926...	15.3	12.6	0.21	57	1.30	0.91
1927...	14.2	13.0	0.41	63	1.55	0.55
1928...	14.6	11.2	0.07	63	1.17	0.75
1929...	14.1	17.1	1.08	96	1.28	0.91
1930...	14.7	11.4	0.23	46	1.59	0.67
1931...	13.2	14.8	0.40	99	1.69	0.67
1932...	14.0	12.9	0.51	80	1.47	0.65
1933...	12.8	14.2	0.27	61	1.89	0.62
1934...	13.7	12.6	0.24	53	1.76	0.48
1935...	12.7	14.2	0.06	35	1.54	0.89
1936...	14.3	14.4	0.30	52	1.88	0.72
1937...	13.2	12.9	0.03	51	1.27	0.30
1938...	13.6	12.5	0.23	59	1.96	0.50
1939...	15.2	13.6	0.10	46	1.77	0.36
1940...	14.8	14.0	0.10	56	1.27	0.43
1941...	15.7	13.7	0.10	41	2.13	0.77
1942...	15.8	13.5	0.17	57	2.01	0.45
1943...	17.2	13.9	0.21	61	1.91	0.35
1944...	21.3	14.8	0.25	53	2.07	0.57
1945...	15.6	13.4	0.00	38	2.05	0.53

TABLE V.
Causes of Death, 1945.

			Males	Females	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	9	4	...	13
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	2	—	...	2
Syphilitic Diseases	...	—	—	—	—
Influenza	...	1	1	...	2
Measles	...	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	1	—	—	—	1
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	—	—	—	—
Cancer	...	26	32	...	58
Diabetes	...	1	5	...	6
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	23	16	...	39
Heart Disease	...	49	64	...	113
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	6	7	...	13
Bronchitis	...	18	13	...	31
Pneumonia	...	7	7	...	14
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	1	3	...	4
Peptic Ulcer	...	5	—	...	5
Diarrhœa under 2 years	...	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis	...	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	...	8	7	...	15
Nephritis	...	2	3	...	5
Puerperal Sepsis	...	—	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	...	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth	...	—	3	...	3
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, etc.	...	4	5	...	9
Suicide	...	6	3	...	9
Road Traffic Accidents	...	1	1	...	2
Other Violence	...	3	1	...	4
All other Causes	...	17	16	...	33
Total	...	190	191	...	381

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. STAFF.

Full details of the Staff of the department are given at the beginning of this report.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The complete facilities of the University of Manchester Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine, at the Public Health Laboratory are available and are fully utilized.

During 1945 the following specimens were submitted for examination :—

TABLE VI.

Throat Swabs	46
Sputum for B. Tuberculosis	1
Fæces for Bacteriological examination	8
Ice Cream for B. Count, etc.... ...	5
Milk samples :—	
(a) B. count, etc.	2
(b) Methylene Blue	45
(c) Guinea Pig inoculation—B. Tuberc. ...	39
	— 86
Water :—	
Bacteriological examination	2
Chemical examination	1
	— 3
	<hr/>
	149

3. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Two ambulances are provided by the Borough Council for the removal of non-infectious cases, medical, maternity or accident. The ambulance service is under the direct control and supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

In addition, a certain number of cases from Boundary Park General Hospital are transported by the ambulances of the Oldham and District Joint Ambulance Board. The extent of population served by the Middleton ambulance is insufficient to permit a local

scheme to be completely efficient and much consideration has been given by the Health Committee during 1945 to the reorganisation of this service. The Committee's deliberations were not completed by the end of the year.

During the year 1945 the following cases were conveyed by the above vehicles :—

Accident cases	...	...	...	...	...	165
Medical cases	...	...	...	...	...	689
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	17
						871

For the removal of cases of infectious diseases to Isolation Hospitals, a special ambulance is maintained by the Health Department. During the year, 50 cases were removed by this ambulance. In addition, the Rochdale County Borough ambulance removed six infectious cases from the Borough to Marland Isolation Hospital.

4. HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS.

There are no hospitals situated within this Borough, which is, however, well served by numerous institutions in the surrounding areas. General medical and surgical cases receive attention at the Voluntary Hospitals in Manchester, Oldham and Rochdale, and also at Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham. Maternity cases are admitted to Boundary Park Hospital, Oldham, St. Mary's Hospital and North Manchester Maternity Home, Manchester. Arrangements for hospital treatment are usually made by the patient's own doctor, but the Local Authority has this year completed financial arrangements for the treatment of approved admissions for confinement to St. Mary's Hospitals, Manchester.

5. HOME AND DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

One help was regularly employed during part of the year, eight homes being attended for varying intervals.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births.

Under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, 433 live births and 17 still-births were notified during 1945.

Midwifery and Maternity Services.

The liaison established in 1943 between these services has been consolidated and the County Council midwives attend and are responsible for the running of the weekly ante-natal clinic.

No maternal death occurred in 1945.

Ante-Natal Service.

176 women made 905 attendances at the ante-natal clinic, of whom 10 were referred to St. Mary's Hospitals, Manchester, and where three were subsequently confined.

Post-Natal Service.

No "ad hoc" clinic has been established but 18 women made 22 attendances at the ante-natal clinic and received advice and treatment from the obstetric consultant.

Infant Welfare.

The clinic services relating to child welfare, after the upheaval they suffered during the earlier war years, and despite the deplorable accommodation available at the district clinics, go on from strength to strength. More and more mothers continue to make use of the services and, as will be seen from Table VII, the number of infants under one year of age making their first attendance at the welfare centres represented almost 65 per cent. of the total births for the year, being an increase of 13 per cent. over the figure for 1938. The reduction in the infant mortality rate is a reflex of the work of the whole staff during the year. Infant deaths, classified according to age and cause of death, are shown in Table VIII.

The attendances, especially at the Durnford Street welfare centre, reached dimensions that threatened to reduce the efficiency of the work carried out and, with the concurrence of the Committee, an additional weekly session was instituted at that centre early in 1946, as soon as the additional health visitor, whom the Committee had appointed, took up duties.

Table VII. gives a record of work carried out at the centres and in the homes by the health visitors.

SPECIAL TREATMENT CLINICS.

Sunlight Therapy.

This clinic continues to be held thrice weekly. 241 school children, 84 pre-school children and five adults made 5,612 attendances during the year.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

A consultative session attended by Dr. Johnstone was held every second month, when 95 school children and 36 pre-school children made 170 attendances. In addition, three remedial sessions are held weekly by the orthopædic nurses. It has now proved possible to hold small classes at Durnford Street Clinic at which the orthopædic nurse gives group instruction in exercises devised to remedy minor postural and foot defects.

337 children made a total of 1,726 attendances at the Orthopædic Clinic.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

Forty-three pre-school children and 373 school children attended the fortnightly Ophthalmic Clinic, making 577 attendances in all.

Dental Clinic.

Seven pre-school children and 795 school children made 1,532 attendances for advice and treatment. Five expectant or nursing mothers attended for advice and treatment and the small numbers attending are, in my view, related solely to the fact that the service is not yet adapted to meet this class of work.

TABLE VII.
CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Number of children who attended for the first time during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were :—								
(1) Under 1 year of age ...	205	229	206	260	242	284	351	285
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	67	64	34	59	52	25	45	32
Percentage of notified births represented by the number of children who on the date of their first attendance were under one year of age	51.00	50.32	46.19	55.56	53.19	58.44	58.60	64.19
Number who attended and at the end of the year were :—								
(1) Under 1 year of age ...	170	184	184	229	210	218	328	242
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	441	448	397	410	379	291	382	469
Number of attendances by children :—								
(1) Under 1 year of age ...	3611	4106	4602	5427	4438	4549	5636	5053
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	4506	3854	4404	3586	1639	1288	1687	1713

Ante-Natal Clinics.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Number of expectant mothers attended ...	155	134	71	132	91	119	239	176
Number of attendances by expectant mothers ...	546	367	196	402	124	471	1054	905
Percentage of total notified live and still births represented by the number of expectant mothers who attended the Ante-Natal Clinics	36.21	28.63	15.34	26.83	19.20	23.47	38.74	38.18

Gynaecological and Post-Natal Clinics.

Number of mothers attended	14	6	3	7	4	2	11	22
Number of attendances ...	17	6	3	7	4	4	15	28

Health Visiting.

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| (1) To expectant mothers :— | | | | | | | | | |
| First visits ... | ... | 58 | 57 | 31 | 25 | 23 | 6 | 11 | 17 |
| Total visits ... | ... | 423 | 498 | 225 | 187 | 153 | 54 | 72 | 63 |
| (2) To children under 1 year
of age :— | | | | | | | | | |
| First visits ... | ... | 455 | 466 | 482 | 503 | 521 | 435 | 598 | 442 |
| Total visits ... | ... | 1927 | 2114 | 1880 | 1650 | 1631 | 788 | 1321 | 1282 |
| (3) To children between the
ages of 1 and 5 years :— | | | | | | | | | |
| Total visits ... | ... | 3493 | 3673 | 3369 | 2745 | 2125 | 627 | 1072 | 1036 |

TABLE VIII.
INFANT DEATHS. 1945.

	Under	1-7	1-4		1-3	3-6	6-12		
Cause of death.	1 day	1 day	days	wks.	Total	mths.	mths.	mths.	Total
Prematurity ...	I	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	3
Hydrocephalus	I	I	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Congenital									
Heart Disease...	-	-	I	-	I	-	I	-	2
Pneumonia ...	-	-	-	I	I	I	-	I	3
T.B. Meningitis .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	I	I
Gastritis ...	-	-	-	-	-	I	-	-	I
Paralytic Ileus...	-	-	-	-	-	-	I	-	I
Asphyxia									
Neonatorum...	I	-	-	-	I	-	-	-	I
Lymphadenitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	I	-	-	I
Weak Baby ...	I	-	-	-	I	-	-	-	I
Tentorial Tear ...	-	I	-	-	I	-	-	-	I
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	4	2	3	I	10	3	2	2	17

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Scabies Treatment Clinic.

During the year the incidence of Scabies lessened but the facilities at the Health Centre continue to be fully used.

Affected persons, including all family contacts, are offered treatment at the Health Centre, and a good response has been obtained. Where adequate bathing facilities are available at home, suitable preparations and instructions in their use are supplied, and the patients are kept under supervision. Where home facilities are unsatisfactory, the treatment is carried out by the Health Visitors at the Health Centre. The local Medical Practitioners have co-operated and have referred cases to the Clinic for treatment. Details of the number of individuals, including family contacts, treated are as follows :—

TABLE IX.

Age Distribution.

	Treated at Home.	Treated at Clinic.	Treated elsewhere e.g., Hospital.	Total
Pre-school ...	5	47	2	54
Schoolchildren	2	117	3	122
Adults ...	91	74	6	171
 Total ...	 98	 238	 11	 347
	—	—	—	—

The preparations used are Ascabiol and Sulphur.

Verminous Conditions.

Attention to louse infestation has continued throughout the year. Most of these cases are discovered amongst the school populace, and wherever possible adult and pre-school contacts are also examined and advised regarding treatment. During the year the following cases were dealt with at the Health Centre :—

TABLE X.

Cleansed at Clinic.

Pre-school children	...	...	...	...	1
School children ...	...	...	...	...	17
Adults ...	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					19
					—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA, ETC.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Sewage from this Borough is treated by Manchester Corporation.

WATER SUPPLY.

The town is supplied with water by the Heywood and Middleton Joint Water Board. The supply is upland surface water, of good quality. Details of the catchment area and reservoir installations have been given in previous reports.

600 yards of new mains were laid during the year for housing development.

No. of houses supplied by the Joint Board	...	10,255
No. of baths in Borough	...	5,150

During the year one full chemical and 11 bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Heywood and Middleton Joint Water Board. All the samples of treated water going into supply were excellent in quality.

A small number of outlying farms have independent water supplies from wells.

SANITARY SERVICES.

Closet Accommodation.

The following is a list of the types of closets existing in the Borough at the end of the year:—

TABLE XI.

Privy middens	...	...	...	...	...	63
Pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	214
Waste-water closets	...	...	...	...	...	2,889
Fresh-water closets	...	...	...	...	...	6,011

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Refuse collection and disposal is carried out by the Cleansing Department. An efficient Salvage Plant and Destructor are available. The following information has been supplied by the Chief Sanitary Inspector who is also Cleansing Superintendent.

Refuse Collection.

Regarding the year from the Refuse Collection angle, 1945 proved the most difficult of the war period. Shortage of labour and materials were very acute and consequently the refuse and salvage collection facilities were inadequate. Dustbins were in short supply and it was not possible to replace even a small proportion of worn-out and dilapidated bins, which further handicapped the work of collection. Numerous complaints were received of the inadequacy of the service, and attempts made to secure additional labour were without avail. The adverse effect on salvage collection was noticeable, in many cases householders reacted unfavourably to the inadequate collection facilities and became less co-operative.

The expectation that the advent of peace would improve the labour position was a hope which did not materialise, and almost throughout the whole of the year the department was unable to give the service desired, and was in many instances criticised for failing to accomplish the impossible.

There are approximately 6,618 movable ashbins, 1,397 ashpits, 354 wall-type dustbins and 214 pail closets in the Borough. Ashbins and pail closets are emptied weekly and ashpits fortnightly.

The majority of the pail closets are in connection with premises in the villages of Bowlee and Birch, which are not sewered.

The net cost of Refuse Collection for the financial year ended 31st March, 1946, was £5,548.

Refuse Disposal.

The whole of the refuse collected, with the exception of "pail" refuse, amounting to 6,508 tons, was dealt with at the Separation and Salvage Plant.

The cost of Refuse Disposal for the year amounted to £810.

TABLE XII.

Income from Sales of Salvage.	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	144	19	1	934	3	10
Light scrap	29	14	3	32	13	10
Baled scrap	96	12	2	150	10	11
Non-ferrous metals	—	—	—	—	—	—
Textiles	4	14	2	27	18	0
Bones	1	15	2	9	7	4
Kitchen waste	201	5	1	301	17	10
Broken glass	18	7	0	16	1	1
Screened fuel	380	6	0	158	3	1
Screened dust	3594	17	1	—	—	—
Rubber	0	17	0	2	2	6
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	0	1	6
Total	4473	9	0	£1632	19	11

TABLE XIII.
SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following tables give details of the various inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year:—

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Act, 1936.

						Inspections made, etc.
Drainage work	...	...	...	...	...	167
Refuse removal	...	...	...	...	...	258
Water samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	15
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stables, piggeries, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	7
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	23
Common lodging houses	...	...	...	...	...	32
Houses let in lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	33
Houses	...	...	...	...	...	856
Manure dumps	...	...	...	...	...	11
Investigation and removal of patients						
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	295
Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	8
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Verminous conditions and disinfection					...	125
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	74
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1,909

Housing Act, 1936.

Housing defects	...	...	...	...	...	86
Measured for permitted number	...	...	...	...	...	2
Investigations overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	23
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	32
Total	...	...	...	...	...	143

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Samples taken—Milk designated, for Bacteria..	22
Milk ordinary, for Bacteria ...	48
Ice cream ...	5
Food preparing etc. premises	79
Dairies ...	11
Cowsheds ...	3
Markets and shops ...	54
Unsound food ...	39
Miscellaneous visits and re-visits	39
Total	300

Factories Act, 1937.						Inspections made, etc.
Factories with power	...	...	...	...	...	58
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	17
						—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	75
						—
Shops Acts.						
Hours of closing	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Health, etc. (Sec. 10)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Diseases of Animals Acts.						
	...	...	...	...	...	97
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.						
Rat infestation	...	...	...	...	...	74
Mice infestation	...	...	...	...	...	2
						—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	76
						—
Miscellaneous Visits.						
Re-inspection where notices in force	...	...	...	...	...	723
Interviews with owners, builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	256
Works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	37
Public conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	256
Meetings	...	...	...	...	...	36
Tip and salvage depot	...	...	...	...	...	587
Salvage and refuse collection	...	...	...	...	...	86
Air raid precautions duties	...	...	...	...	...	37
Air raid shelters	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other visits	...	...	...	...	...	29
						—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	2,050
						—
Total Number of Visits						
	...	...	...	...	...	4,641
Complaints.						
Number of complaints during the year	...	...	...	...	...	580
Notices.						
Informal notices served	...	...	...	...	...	449
Informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	367
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	7
Statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	6

TABLE XIV.**Work carried out in compliance with Notices.**

Drains cleared ... ... ...	...	...	125
Drains repaired or re-constructed	...	...	40
Rainwater pipes repaired	...	...	10
New water-closets installed	...	...	—
Water closets repaired ...	...	...	63
Eaves-gutters repaired ...	...	...	15
Sinks provided ...	...	...	1
Bins provided ...	...	...	20
Roofs repaired ...	...	...	41
Other nuisances abated ...	...	...	99
Plasterwork repaired ...	...	...	14
Skirting boards repaired	...	...	—
Rising dampness remedied	...	...	14
Fire-ranges repaired ...	...	...	13
Floors repaired ...	...	...	8
Sash-cords repaired	...	...	10
Dampness remedied ...	...	...	69
Waste pipes remedied ...	...	...	15

TABLE XV.**FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**

Defects found	6
Notices served :—	
(a) Sanitary defects	6 Remedied, 6
(b) Other defects	— , —

TABLE XVI.**ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.**

(a) No. of Council houses found to be infested	3
“ “ “ disinfested ...	3
(b) No. of other houses found to be infested ...	9
“ “ “ disinfested ...	9

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

TABLE XVII.

(a) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

Sausage Meat, 2 qrs. 4 lbs. ; Sausage Links, $26\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ; Meat and Vegetables, 4 lbs. ; Ox Sweet Breads, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ; Ham, $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ; Pork Luncheon Meat, 14 lbs. ; Prem, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ; Pork Loaf, 2 qrs. $5\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. ; Stewed Steak, 27 lbs. ; Mor, $2\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. ; Beef Loaf, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. ; Luncheon Meat, $2\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. ; Chopped Beef, 2 cwts. 1 qr. 20 lbs. ; Sheep's Tongues, $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. ; Ham Loaf, 6 lbs. ; Brisket Beef, 4 lbs. ; Corned Beef, $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. ; Boneless Pork, 1 qr. 22 lbs. ; Mackerel, 1 lb. ; Crawfish, 1 lb. ; Kippers, 1 qr. 14 lbs. ; Plaice, 3 qrs. 0 lbs. ; Mussels, 3 qrs. 0 lbs. ; Salmon, 2 qrs. 0 lbs. ; Sardines, $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. ; Pilchards, $17\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. ; Treet, $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. ; Plum Jam, 8 lbs. ; Melon and Ginger Jam, 2 lbs. ; Marmalade, 14 lbs. ; Orange Pulp, 3 tons 9 cwts. ; Strawberry Pulp, 18 cwts. 2 qrs. ; Black Currant Pulp, 3 cwts. ; Grape Fruit Pulp, 18 cwts. 2 qrs. ; Prune Pulp, 14 cwts. 0 qrs. $4\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. ; Apricot Pulp, 1 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs. ; Peach Pulp, 1 qr. 24 lbs. ; Pineapple Pulp, 15 cwts. 2 qrs. 25 lbs. ; Blackberry Pulp, 10 cwts. ; Raspberry Pulp, 7 cwts. ; Gooseberry Pulp, 3 cwts. ; Orange Peel, 3 cwts. ; Tomato Puree, 6 cwts. 3 qrs. ; Tomato Paste, 10 cwts. 2 qrs. 14 lbs. ; Ground Peanut Mixture, 3 qrs. 24 lbs. ; Carrots, 1 ton 18 cwts. ; Soya Flour, 2 qrs. 25 lbs. ; Stoneless Dates, 2 qrs. 13 lbs. ; Prunes, 1 qr. 16 lbs. ; Barley Flakes, 1 qr. 8 lbs. ; Dried Eggs, 2 qrs. ; Oranges, 1 cwt. ; Dried Peaches, 25 lbs. ; Oats, 1 cwt. ; Sugar, 4 lbs. ; Beans, 11 lbs. ; Evaporated Milk, 1 tin ; Full Cream Milk, 7 tins ; Sweetened Milk, 49 tins ; Unsweetened Milk, 11 tins ; Peas, 4 tins ; Baked Beans, 7 tins ; Soup, 31 tins ; Biscuits, 37 tins ; Peaches, 64 tins.

TABLE XVIII.

(b) MILK SUPPLY.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

No. of Cowkeepers registered in the district ...	69
No. of Retail Milk Sellers registered	34
No. of Cowshed Inspections during the year ...	92

Samples of milk were taken from producers and retail purveyors of milk for examination by the methylene blue test with the following results :—

TABLE XIX.

Satisfactory	26
Unsatisfactory	19

Thirty-nine samples of ordinary milk were submitted for biological test for Tuberclle Bacilli. Three were found to contain Tuberclle Bacilli, the remainder being satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 and 1938.

The Lancashire County Council is the Licensing Authority under the above Orders with respect to the production of "Accredited" and "Tuberculin Tested" Milk, and the following licences have been issued and are at present in force in the Borough :

No. of Licences to produce "Tuberculin Tested" Milk ... Nil.

(a) To produce only "

(b) To produce and bottle "

No. of Licences to produce "Accredited" Milk 3

(a) To produce only —

(b) To produce and bottle 3

Licences to dealers in Designated Milk were issued by the Local Authority, as follows :—

No. of Licences to deal in "Pasteurised Milk" 1

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Epidemiologically little untoward occurred during 1945. No death occurred from the seven principal zymotic diseases and no disease was epidemic in nature, though measles was fairly prevalent.

Table XX shows the number of cases occurring amongst the individual diseases, the number removed to hospital and the deaths occurring in hospital.

Total Cases Notified.

TABLE No. XX.

Infectious Diseases.	No.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	56	38	—
Diphtheria	6	6	—
Pneumonia	39	4	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	1	—
Erysipelas	1	1	—
Measles	313	—	—
Whooping Cough	124	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyleitis	1	1	1
	—	—	—
	548	53	5
	—	—	—

Scarlet Fever.

The incidence of scarlet fever continued to fall during 1945 when 56 cases only were notified. The cases were scattered over the whole of the borough and over the whole of the year and the disease generally was mild in character. No death occurred.

Diphtheria.

Only six cases of diphtheria occurred during the year and all recovered.

The scheme of immunisation continues to function actively and 404 children were immunised through the local authority's scheme whilst a further 92 children were known to have been immunised by private practitioners. In addition, 255 children immunised some years previously received a re-inforcing inoculation during the year.

It is estimated that at the end of 1945, 55.6 per cent. of children under 5 years of age and 75.5 per cent. of children between the ages of 5 and 15 years were immunised against diphtheria. Table XXI. shows the progress of the scheme since its inception.

Whooping Cough.

One hundred and twenty-four cases occurred during the year, 71.77 per cent. being under five years of age. The whole of the borough was involved, the cases occurring more or less evenly throughout the year. No death occurred.

Measles.

Three hundred and thirteen cases of measles occurring mainly in the first quarter of the year represented the end of the previous year's outbreak. The East and North Wards were principally involved and the infant sections of certain schools in these wards did not escape unscathed. No death occurred.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

A small outbreak of this disease involving four cases occurred. With the effective co-operation of all concerned the apparent cause was soon recognised and with the adoption of the appropriate measures the outbreak subsided as rapidly as it appeared. All the cases recovered under treatment.

TABLE No. XXI.
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:
Persons Inoculated each year from 1936—1945.

Age at date of inoculation	1936		1937		1938		1939		1940		1941		1942		1943		1944		1945	
	*1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	14	4	8	15	14	9	26
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	22	29	36	80	40	66	65	85	101	126
1½	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	3	1	7	23	12	19	47	9	21	17	25	19	8
2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	33	15	11	41	13	19	5	15	12	11
2½	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	42	15	13	54	5	6	4	5	5	10
3	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	2	—	—	30	13	12	44	9	6	3	7	6	1
3½	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	34	9	11	38	4	7	4	5	3	10
4	1	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	40	14	12	37	4	14	1	4	4	—
4½	1	1	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	41	15	8	33	6	8	3	8	2	3
5	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	3	41	18	16	54	9	11	5	12	—	3
5½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52	19	15	44	6	16	5	13	3	5
6	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	39	11	17	43	6	12	5	10	—	3
6½	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	9	22	44	6	6	—	6	5	1
7	1	2	2	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	43	12	23	30	6	12	1	6	5	2
7½	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	30	11	19	27	3	7	1	5	2	1
8	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	12	13	28	5	9	1	5	—	1
8½	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	32	5	17	27	3	13	1	11	1	—
9	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	27	10	19	33	1	8	1	7	3	1
9½	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	39	12	26	26	5	9	2	5	—	—
10	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	24	3	21	30	9	11	—	2	2	1
10½	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	29	4	14	26	5	10	2	6	—	—
11	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	33	4	22	31	6	20	—	3	—	—
11½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	8	18	36	1	9	1	9	1	—
12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	11	8	30	2	10	—	12	1	1
12½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	1	16	25	1	5	2	2	1	—
13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	9	18	16	3	8	1	9	3	1
13½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	5	16	25	5	3	1	11	—	—
14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	4	2	1	—	2	1	—
14½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total each yr.	17	26	19	18	20		1,174		1,409		514		450		404					

* 1 = January to June.

2 = July to December.

Total inoculated under five years on 31st Dec., 1945 : 983.

Total inoculated aged 5-14 years on 31st Dec., 1945 : 2,588.

Total inoculated aged 15 years and over on 31st Dec., 1945 : 480.

